

Parent Update

A Newsletter for Families of Those Residing at the
Southwestern Virginia Training Center

Kevin W. Receives MOST IMPROVED AWARD

On February 5, 2009 Kevin W. who lives on 7A was presented with the Most Improved Award. Kevin has worked very hard to keep himself, the staff, and others safe for an entire year. He has worked very hard throughout the year at his various jobs which include paper shredding, making broccoli boxes for the Farmers Market and helping with cardboard collection for recycling, and tote collection for the warehouse. During the spring, summer, and fall he was very dedicated to working in the greenhouse. He planted, watered and weeded the flowers in the greenhouse. For his commendable efforts Kevin was presented with a plaque to hang in his bedroom and later that evening he celebrated his accomplishments with all of his friends on 7A with a pizza party. WAY TO GO KEVIN!!!!

Inside this issue:

Kevin W. receives Award	1
Valentine's Dance 2009	2
Valentine's Day King and Queen	3
SWVTC News Update	4
More Interesting News	5
A Note from Abby	6

- * Most Improved Award
- * Everyone had so much fun at this years Valentine's Day Dance!!
- * The King and Queen are crowned at the Valentine's Day Dance.
- * Sunday Services are a big HIT and a lot of FUN!!!!

Kevin proudly
holding his
award.



On February 12, 2009 the annual Valentine's Dance was held in the SWVTC gym. Everyone came out "DRESSED to IMPRESS." There were several different stations set up so that everyone could decide what activity they would like to participate in. There was a decorate your own "Sweetheart" cupcake station, a jello-jiggler heart cut-out station, make a strawberry smoothie station, voting for the SWVTC King and Queen, and of course the middle of the gym floor was reserved for some good old fashioned DANCING!!!!



Above: Mona got all dressed up for the dance! She looks Beautiful!!



Above: Raymond and Theresa are making jello-jigglers.

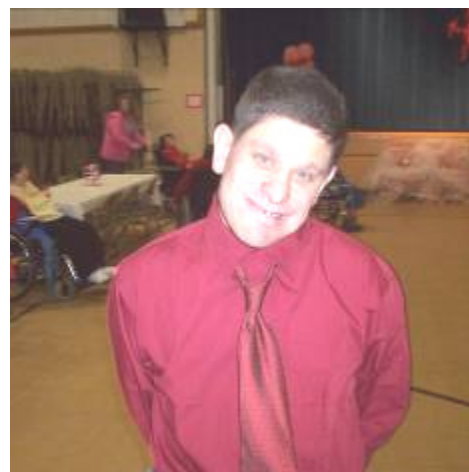


Right: Harriet and Janet smiling for the camera.



Left: Gary A. put his best suit on and then topped it off with rose boutonniere .

Right: Luther is looking very festive in his red dress shirt and red silk tie!!



AND THE VALENTINE'S DAY KING AND QUEEN ARE.....



Ronnie B. and Beulah R.



Barry is voting for his choice for King and Queen at the voting booth.



Ronnie and Beulah were crowned King and Queen at Valentine's Day Dance February 12th. Beulah was so excited she had tears in her eyes. When I asked Ronnie what he thought about being crowned King he said, "It's time to PARTY!!!" So I guess you could say he was pretty excited!



SWVTC NEWS UPDATE

Bowling Club

By Olga Jewel

Spirits are high and everyone is ready to have some fun every Wednesday when the Bowling Club (led by Olga Jewel) heads to the lanes. The Bowling Club boasts 22 members, 5 of which are new to the club. Everyone's skills have improved and some who started out using a ramp are now independently able to roll the ball.

In 2008, the high scorer was Thomas B. (92), with Johnnie H. (88) from 6D coming in 2nd. For those that use the ramp Hope B. (88) from 5B is high scorer with Cheryl D. (83) from 6D coming in 2nd.



Watching and HOPING for a STRIKE!!!!

Snow Tubing At Winterplace

The guys on 7A and 6D enjoyed a trip to Ghent, WV Wednesday January 21st. The weather was perfect for snow tubing at Winterplace Ski Resort. The staff at Winterplace was incredibly helpful and everyone had a blast! After snow tubing everyone had worked up such an appetite they went and enjoyed a buffet lunch at Ryan's in Princeton, WV.



They look like they are having a great time snow tubing!!!



Bet they sure worked up an appetite on the slopes!!

.....More SWVTC NEWS

On Sundays at SWVTC we try to offer Sunday Services for our folks to give them an opportunity to attend a Sunday worship and sing along service if they would like to. We have many volunteers who have been coming here throughout the years to provide these services and we are very appreciative to them for their commitment to the training center. Several of our folks love to come on Sundays and get up and sing and dance with the volunteers and they always seem to have a very good time. In January and February we had Bob Goldstein from Heritage Church of Dublin, Evelyn Gunter from Genesis Full Gospel of Mt. Airy, Garfield Austin and the Blue Ridge Country Boys, and The Oak Hill Academy Choir. These services are usually always a lot of fun for everyone!!



Bob Goldstein playing guitar for building 12.



Evelyn Gunter singing and dancing in the gym on a Sunday afternoon!!! Everyone is joining in on the fun!!

First Baptist Church of Galax Spreads Valentine Cheer!!

The First Baptist Church of Galax youth group brought fruit, flower arrangements, teddy bears and hand-made cards to make some of our folks Valentine's Day just a little bit more special. They sang songs and played instruments while Sarah Beth played the keyboard. Everyone just had a very good time getting to know each other and forming friendships that they hope will last for a long time!!



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LIFE at SWVTC

VISION: Living
Independently and
Functionally Everyday

MISSION: Support Work
Value Teach Communicate

**HELP FOR PARENTS AND ASSOCIATES ADVOCATE
COUNCIL (PAAC)**

OUR GROUP NEEDS YOUR HELP! IS ANYONE INTERESTED IN SERVING AS PRESIDENT OF THE SWVTC PAAC? THE DUTIES INCLUDE CHAIRING PAAC MEETINGS AND OCCASIONALLY REPRESENTING PAAC AT MEETINGS OR WRITING LETTERS ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERSHIP. THE PERSON WHO SERVES IN THIS POSITION WILL HAVE ASSISTANCE FROM THE FACILITY WHENEVER NEEDED. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR SOCIAL WORKER IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!



A Note From Abby

Can you believe that March is already here and we are starting to see Easter Lilies popping up everywhere. At SWVTC the first day of March we saw nearly 12 inches of snow and 3-foot snow drifts. Then shortly one week later it was almost 80 degrees. So we are not quite sure what kind of weather Spring will bring. Whatever it is we are prepared!!!! We have quite a few events planned for the next couple of months. We will be bringing back a favorite of all, The Price is Right, in which a contestant plays games (like on the TV show) for some COOL prizes. The Easter bunny will also be stopping by hiding eggs for folks to find with some awesome things inside. At the end of April we will be honoring all of the people during the year who have given so much to the training center with our annual awards banquet. On the 26th of April our SWVTC athletes will showcase their talent at Special Olympics in Radford. We wish them lots of luck!! So as you can see we are having fun and staying busy. If anyone knows of any volunteers needing recognition that I might not be aware of please give me a call so that they too can be recognized at the Volunteer Banquet!!